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Allen says Haig's attitude created 'bootleg' channel

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Richard Allen, former national security adviser, says Alexander Haig was so insistent on presiding over all foreign policy as secretary of state that some material had to be "bootlegged" to the Defense Department.

In a chapter contributed for a forthcoming book from the Heritage Foundation, Allen writes that during the transitional period before Ronald Reagan took over from President Carter, Haig had anointed himself "vicar" of "every policy matter extending beyond the 3-mile territorial limit" of the United States.

Haig, Allen said, tried to bypass him, the National Security Council and the Pentagon on policy and security matters. But senior White House officials channeled the material back to the NSC, which established a "bootleg" operation to get the material to Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger, he said.

Allen resigned last January after the Justice Department cleared him of wrongdoing in connection with a series of charges involving alleged unethical practices. The resignation also came in the wake of reported White House dis-

satisfaction with his performance and a year-long feud with Haig.

His views on the matter will be included in "Mandate for Leadership: Agenda '83," to be published on Friday by the conservative think-tank that has been supportive of Reagan.

Allen said that with Haig's resigna-

tion last June, the foreign policy system now works, but there are still some structural weaknesses. Allen was replaced by William Clark, who moved over from his job as deputy secretary of state. George Shultz took over from Haig at the State Department.

Haig's habit of usurping Allen's functions and those of the National Security Council and by-passing the Pentagon and other branches of government "became an exasperating problem for other Cabinet members who were amazed, sometimes amused and often angered by State's insatiable appetite for regulating the affairs of

their departments," Allen said.

In the latter stages of the pre-inaugural transition period, Allen writes, "It soon became clear ... that Haig had a quite unique conception of his duties ... that the president had essentially 'subcontracted' the entire responsibility for foreign policy to him."

Haig, he said, tried to route important papers to the president without first passing them through the NSC. "Ultimately, Haig — unlike (Defense Secretary Caspar) Weinberger or (CIA director) William Casey — occasionally attempted to 'end run' the NSC by delivering papers addressed to the president to others on the senior staff."

Allen charged the press with fueling the conflicts of foreign policy "turf" and also incorrectly reporting that Reagan had little interest in foreign affairs.

"Contrary to what frequently appeared in the press during the campaign and later, during the transition period, Reagan spent many hours over briefing papers and reading widely on foreign affairs and national security matters," Allen said.